

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested.

Claims 2-8 are pending in this application. Claim 1 was previously canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Claims 2 and 6 are amended to correct grammatical errors and to insure that no question arises to lack of proper antecedent basis. In addition, Claims 6-8 have been amended to correct the clearly improper multiple dependency of these claims. In this regard, 37 CFR §1.75(c) prohibits one multiple dependent claim as serving as the basis for another multiple dependent claim. Accordingly, as Claim 4 is a multiply dependent claim, Claims 6-8 that depend on Claim 4 cannot be multiple dependent claims. Accordingly, Claims 6-8 have been amended to be dependent only on Claim 4.

Applicants submit that no new matter or other new examination issues will be introduced by the foregoing amendments to Claims 2 and 6-8 to correct their improper multiple dependencies, to correct grammatical errors, and to insure against lack of antecedent basis problems. Thus, it is submitted that the presently proposed corrections to Claims 2 and 6-8 are clearly formal matters requiring no further search or other considerations on the merits and that the present amendment should be entered.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.



Gregory J. Maier
Attorney of Record
Registration No. 25,599

Raymond F. Cardillo, Jr.
Registration No. 40,440

Customer Number
22850

Tel: (703) 413-3000
Fax: (703) 413 -2220
(OSMMN 06/04)